

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-05 NAS-01 L-02 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /036 W

----- 105873

R 251652Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2508

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 9222

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BE

SUBJECT: TRADE COMPLAINT: CEUTERICK N.V., OF LOUVAIN, BELGIUM
VS. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

1. LEON PITSI, MANAGING DIRECTOR F CEUTERICK N.V., OF LOUVAIN HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY IN CONNECTION WITH BILL OF BF 653,154 PLUS INTEREST CHARGES WHICH HE ALLEGES STILL OWED HIS FIRM BY NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. BILL REPRESENTS REMAINDER OF PAYMENT FOR PRINTING JOB DONE BY CEUTERICK IN 1972 IN CONNECTION WITH CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF REFRIGERATION. ACCORDING TO PITSI, NAS CONTRACTED TO PAY FOR CERTAIN CONFERENCE EXPENSES. DISPUTE RESULTS FROM FACT THAT CEUTERICK GAVE PRICE QUOTATION IN BELGIAN FRANCS WHICH NAS MADE BASIS FOR SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT IN DEVALUED DOLLARS, REPRESENTING CONSIDERABLE LOSS FOR CEUTERICK.

2. PITSI SAYS THAT PARA. 11 SUBCONTRACT NR. IIR 88-70-12, SIGNED BY NAS, PROVIDES FOR ARBITRATION IN CASE OF DISPUTES. HE ALLEGES HOWEVER THAT NAS HAS THUS FAR REFUSED TO DESIGNATE ARBITRATOR. CEUTERICK INTENDS TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST NAS IF NECESSARY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE HAVE ADVISED PITSI TO PURSUE MATTER THROUGH BELGIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON. BELIEVE IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL OF USDOC COULD PASS SUBSTANCE COMPLAINT TO NAS BUSINESS MANAGER MR. BERNARD KROPP AND SUGGEST ACADEMY COMMUNICATE
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DIRECTLY WITH CEUTERICK IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE MATTER AMICABLY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE09222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740342-0006
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741116/aaaaanab.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2002 by chicheje>; APPROVED <11 JUL 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRADE COMPLAINT: CEUTERICK N.V., OF LOUVAIN, BELGIUM VS. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.
TAGS: BDIS, BE
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005